ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

The purpose of this important after school, before school, Saturday and summer school program is to create **community learning centers** that provide high-quality, Arizona State Standards – based academic learning opportunities leading to increased achievement.



NEED

Teachers have limited time during the school day to help students who are struggling with academic achievement. Many students thrive in the small group setting of after school programs. Most Arizona 21st CCLC programs maintain a ratio of 1:10. Families worry about kids having too much idle time and not enough assistance with homework. Many parents who would like their child to have extra learning opportunities can not afford private tutoring.





21ST CCLC IN ARIZONA

A total of 215 Arizona 21st Century Community Learning Centers will offer out-of-school time academic help to Arizona students during school year 2011-2012. A total of \$21,239,972 has been awarded to Arizona grantees.

More than **57,000** students are projected to receive services after-school, before-school, during inter-sessions, on Saturdays and in summer school this year.

Family members will participate in close to 10,000 parent engagement opportunities at the 21st Century community Learning Centers.

Over 800 community partnerships will offer services to help grant staff meet their goals and objectives outlined in the approved 21st CCLC application.

Arizona 21st CCLC Averages

The average center provides services:

- 32 weeks of the year
- 4.8 days a week
- 3.2 hours per day
- To 287 students on a regular basis



BENEFITS

After school programs keep kids safe and improve students' academic achievement by providing critical opportunities for youth to learn and grow. 21st Century Community Learning Center students who are involved in quality programming on a regular basis:

- **☆** Get better grades
- **☆** Have better behavior in and out of the classroom
- **☆** Do better on standardized tests

Students in quality after school programs have better academic performance, behavior, school attendance and greater expectations for the future.

U.S. Department of Education and Justice, 2000

FUNDING

This federal program is an important component of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), Title IV, Part B, which helps to serve children in high need schools through the implementation of academic out-of-school time programs. ADE is accountable to the US DOE for ensuring that all statutory requirements are met.

• Minimum grant award: \$50,000 / year / school site

Maximum grant award: \$120,000 / year / school site

DURATION OF GRANT

This is a five year discretionary grant with a 25% reduction in year four and 50% reduction in year five. The grantee must demonstrate a commitment to providing the same level of 21st CCLC services for the entire five-year funding cycle, regardless of the 25% reduction in funding in year four and 50% in year five.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

ABSOLUTE PRIORITY- The absolute priority for eligibility is defined as "eligible entities that serve students who attend schools where at least 40% of the students qualify for free and/or reduced meals".

Any public or private organization is eligible to apply. Examples of agencies and organizations include, but are not limited to:

• Non-profit agencies

- Community-based organizations
- City or county government agencies
- Institution of higher education

• Faith-based organizations

• For profit corporations

For more information about the 21st CCLC grant, please visit our website at:

www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/

Arizona Department of Education School Effectiveness Division 21st CCLC Unit

1535 West Jefferson Street, Bin #14 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 602-364-2349 602-364-1938 Fax

www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/

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"Why are after-school programs so important? Because children's minds don't close down at 3:00 p.m., and neither should schools."

Richard W. Riley, Former U.S. Secretary of Education

